



19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians

Standards & Surveys Unit
ILO Department of Statistics



- Role of ICLS in setting international standards
- Types of standards in labour statistics
- Topics for 19th ICLS
- New Work statistics framework
- Revised concept of employment
- New measures of labour underutilization



Role of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS)

- **Mandate**
 - Set international standards in labour statistics
- **Structure**
 - Tripartite representation: Governments, Employers & Workers
- **Frequency**
 - Hosted by ILO every 5 years (since 1923)
 - Next: 2-11 October 2013
- **Participants**
 - Expert statisticians nominated by Governments (MoL, NSO), Employers' and Workers' organizations
 - Regional and international organizations as observers



Objectives of International standards in labour statistics

- **Primary objectives**

- Provide guidance to countries in establishing or updating their labour statistical systems
- Promote coherence in concepts & methods across sources & topics
- Promote international comparability

- **Secondary objectives**

- Cornerstone for technical assistance
- Basis for preparing technical manuals, training, workshops



Types of international standards in labour statistics

- **Conventions and recommendations**
 - Part of International labour code
 - Legally binding in ratifying countries
- **Resolutions**
 - Non-binding
 - Provide detailed guidelines on conceptual frameworks, operational definitions and measurement methodologies
- **Guidelines**
 - Provide additional guidance on particular topics or issues

More information available at:

<http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/standards-and-guidelines/lang--en/index.htm>



Conventions and Recommendations (1985)

- **Convention 160**
 - Basic framework for development of national labour statistics programmes (principles of confidentiality, consultation, dissemination of data and metadata)
 - Promotes application of appropriate methodologies
- Minimum list of nine topics:
 - Employment, Unemployment, Economically active population
 - Hours of work, Wages, Labour Cost
 - Consumer price indices, Household expenditure and income
 - Occupational injuries, Strikes and lockouts
- **Recommendation 170**
 - Supplements C160 (minimum periodicities and classifications by topic)
- Supervisory mechanism to monitor application (since 1988)
 - 49 ratifications (incl. partial): Azerbaijan, Benin, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan



Resolutions and Guidelines

Topics

- Economically active population, employment, unemployment, underemployment
- Underemployment and inadequate employment situations
- Child labour
- Working time
- Informal sector employment
- Informal employment
- ISCO (occupations)
- ICSE (status in employment)
- Employment-related income
- Household income and expenditure statistics
- Consumer price indices
- Occupational injuries
- Strikes and lockouts
- Social security
- Collective agreements
- Labour costs
- Gender mainstreaming
- Dissemination practices



Topics for 19th ICLS (October 2013)

- **For adoption**

- Update of standards on economically active population, employment, unemployment, underemployment (1982)

- **For discussion**

- Statistical definition of green jobs
- International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE)

More information available at: <http://www.ilo.org/19thICLS>

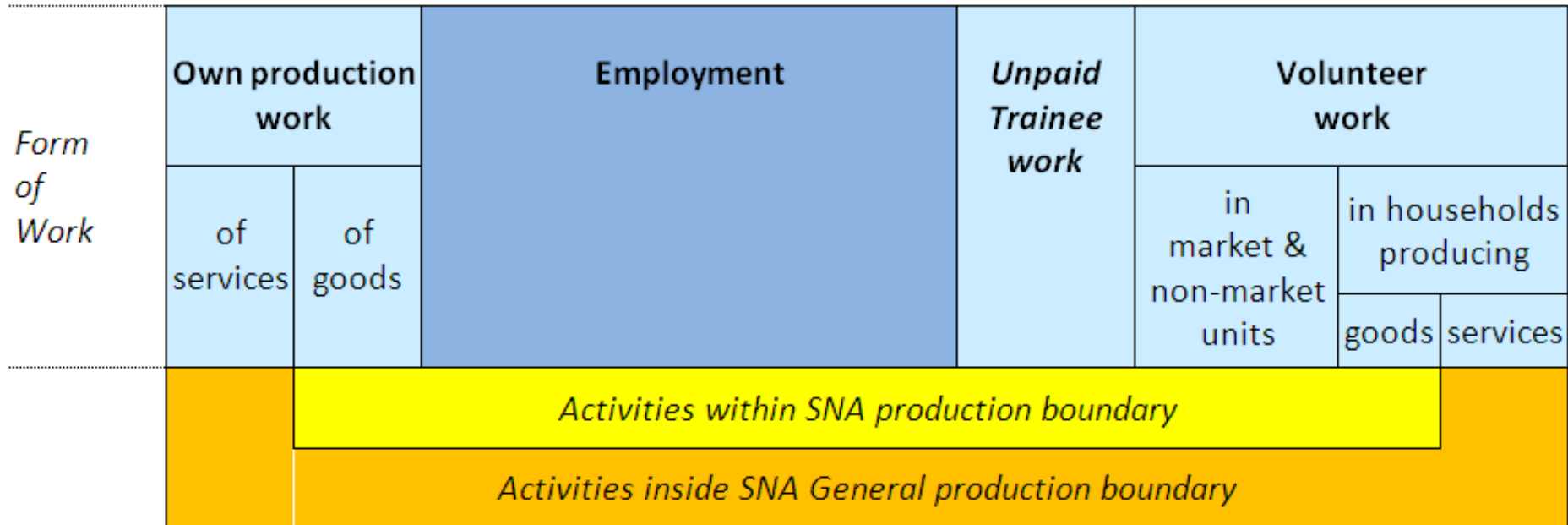


Scope of update

- **New framework for Work & Labour force Statistics**
 - First international statistical definition of “Work”
 - Narrower scope of “Employment” focused on income-generating work
 - New definitions to measure separately from employment
 - Own use production work (of goods and of services)
 - Unpaid trainee work
 - Volunteer work
- **Broader measures of labour underutilization**
 - More targeted Unemployment as search for income-generating work
 - Measures of insufficient volume of employment among
 - Employed
 - Outside the labour force



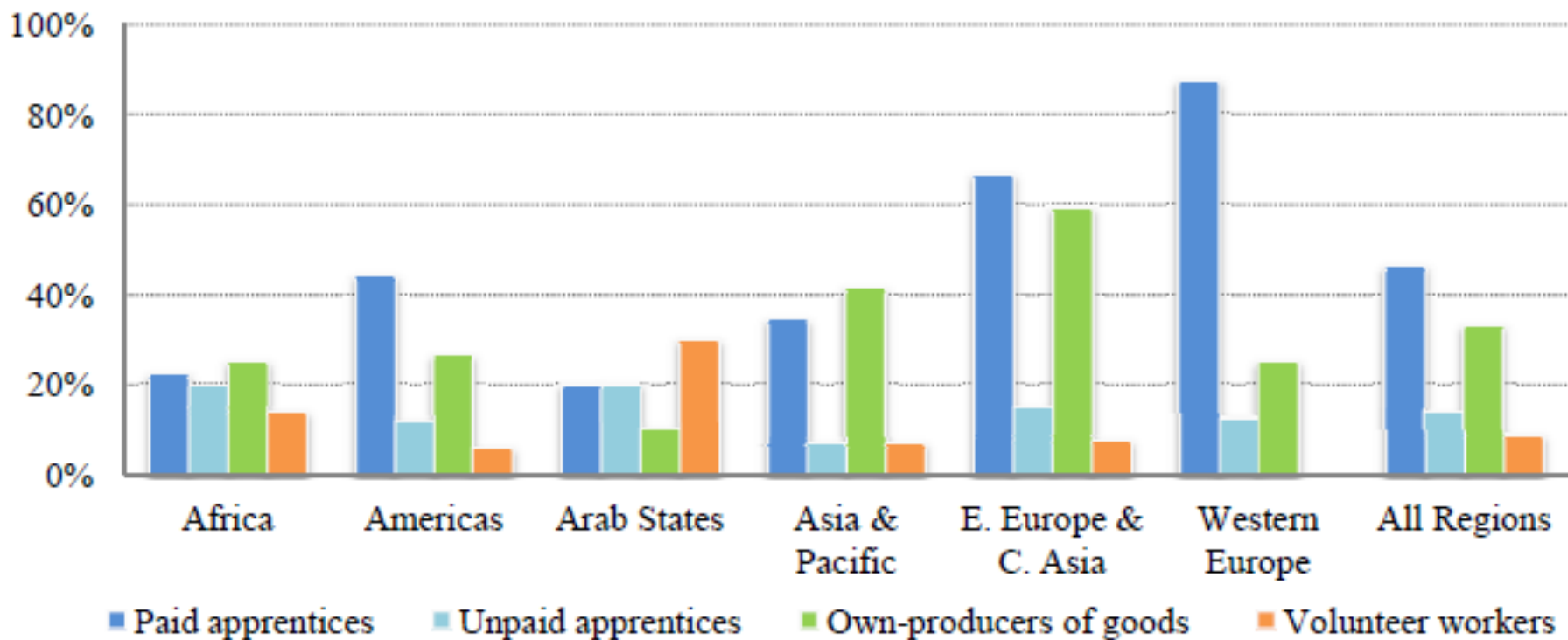
New Framework for Work Statistics





Country Practice

Figure 11: Countries including specific worker groups in employment, by region (%)

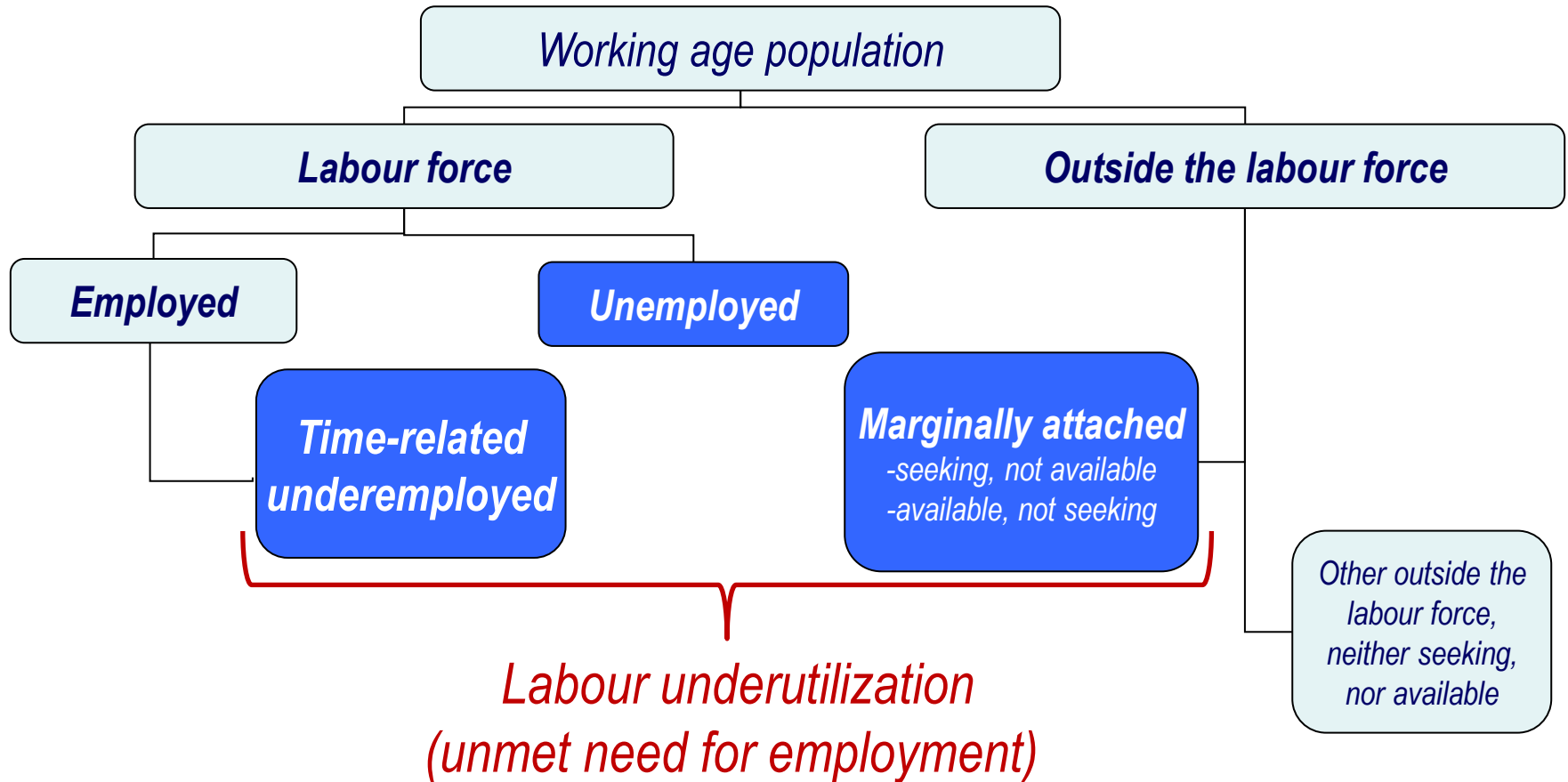


Full and separate measurement of participation in all forms of work





Supplementary measures of labour underutilization



- For regular dissemination together with Unemployment
- To be supplemented with additional indicators of inadequate employment



Relevance of revisions to meet multiple needs

- Better inform employment creation & income generation policies
- Make visible subsistence production for poverty reduction policies
- Improve estimates of work in agriculture
- Measure labour input into ALL productive activities
- Estimate contribution of all forms of work to economy
- Measure contribution of production for own use to household welfare, food security
- Address social dimensions of work: Social cohesion, wellbeing



Current status

